

OUTGOING MESSAGE

Approved For Release 2003/08/08 : CIA-RDP78S01932A000100040046-4

SIGNAL CENTER USE ONLY

AGE COL ACP TOG TPE MRO TRI

CLASSIFICATION

25X1

DATE TIME GROUP

CITE

MESSAGE REFERENCE NUMBER

SOURCE REF:

ROUTING

1		4		7		10	
2		5		8		11	
3		6		9		12	

TO: IMMEDIATE WHITE HOUSE//SITUATION ROOM FOR MR MCNAMIS,
STATE RCI//OPERATIONS CTR FOR MR FRY, NMCC//ATTENTION CIA
REF, TREASURY DEPT//INFO MR HBJOHN YEO.

FLD
91

ITEM NO: 1

DATE: 23 APRIL 1974

25X1DIA

SUBJECT: ALLEGED ATTEMPT TO ASSASSINATE EGYPTIAN PRESIDENT SADAT
REF

AL-ANWAR, A PRO-EGYPTIAN NEWSPAPER PUBLISHED IN BEIRUT,
CLAIMED TODAY THAT AN ASSASSINATION ATTEMPT WAS MADE AGAINST
PRESIDENT SADAT ON THE AFTERNOON OF APRIL 18 AS HIS MOTORCADE WAS
HEADING FOR THE TECHNICAL MILITARY COLLEGE IN CAIRO'S SUBURBS.
ACCORDING TO THE AL-ANWAR ACCOUNT, MORE THAN 20 PERSONS, INCLUDING
FOUR OF SADAT'S BODYGUARDS, WERE KILLED IN THE ENSUING GUN BATTLE
AND SEVERAL WERE INJURED.

SADAT'S OFFICE HAS DENIED THE REPORT, AND IT DOES IN FACT
HAVE A STRANGE RING. THE INCIDENT IS ALLEGED TO HAVE OCCURRED

DATE:

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UNIT: DOS REVIEW

EXT: COMPLETED

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ON A PUBLIC STREET IN THE MIDDLE OF THE AFTERNOON, AND IT SEEMS UNLIKELY THAT AN ATTACK ON A PRESIDENTIAL MOTORCADE COULD HAVE GONE UNNOTICED FOR FIVE DAYS BEFORE A BEIRUT NEWSPAPER BROKE THE NEWS.

THE STORY SEEMS MORE LIKELY TO BE A RUMOR GENERATED FROM THE CONFUSION SURROUNDING THE ATTACK IN THE EARLY MORNING HOURS OF THE SAME DAY ON THE TECHNICAL MILITARY COLLEGE.

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DESPITE THE FACT THAT CAIRO'S SECURITY AUTHORITIES HAVE PUBLICLY ATTEMPTED TO LINK THE ATTACK ON THE MILITARY COLLEGE WITH LIBYA AND HAS SINCE PLACED POLICE GUARDS AROUND THE LIBYAN EMBASSY, THERE IS NO FIRM EVIDENCE TO TIE THE INCIDENT TO TRIPOLI. THE ATTACK COMES AT A TIME OF HEIGHTENED LIBYAN-EGYPTIAN TENSIONS AND AT A TIME WHEN SADAT IS ATTEMPTING TO UNITE EGYPT BEHIND A NEW DOMESTIC AND FOREIGN POLICY ORIENTATION; IT IS ENTIRELY POSSIBLE THAT CAIRO COULD BE USING LIBYA AS A CONVENIENT, AND CONVINCING SCAPEGOAT FOR DOMESTIC UNREST THAT IS UNNERVING FOR SADAT AND POSSIBLY TOO EMBARRASSING TO ADMIT. IT IS EQUALLY POSSIBLE THAT CAIRO BELIEVES, RIGHTLY OR NOT, THAT LIBYA IS INVOLVED.

WHETHER OR NOT A COUP WAS INTENDED, THE EGYPTIANS SEEM CONCERNED ABOUT THE IMPLICATIONS OF THE MILITARY COLLEGE ATTACK.

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SECURITY AUTHORITIES HAVE ALSO ADMITTED THAT

THE ATTACK GROUP HAD SUCCESSFULLY RECRUITED A NUMBER OF EGYPTIAN STUDENTS FOR SEVERAL CITIES. IN VIEW OF RECENT INDICATIONS OF MILD BUT THUS FAR CONTROLLABLE STUDENT DISCONTENT WITH NASADAT'S POLICIES AND EGYPT'S PAST HISTORY OF ACTIVE STUDENT UNREST, THE AUTHORITIES ARE UNDOUBTEDLY CONCERNED THAT THE STUDENTS ARE VULNERABLE TO ATTEMPTS AT AGITATION. EE IMPDET.H

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